

Message Text

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44

ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ADP-00 SCA-01 L-03 /013 W

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R 081230Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6402

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BLANTYRE 1146

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CPRS (HIGGENBOTHAM, PRESS)

SUBJECT: DISPOSITION OF EXPELLED AMCIT PROPERTY

REF: A. BLANTYRE 669 B. BLANTYRE 644 E. EMBASSY'S A-34, 5/19/73

1. REVEREND HIGGENBOTHAM HAS WRITTEN EMBASSY RE PERSONAL AND CHURCH PROPERTY IN MALAWI DISPOSITION OF WHICH GOM SO FAR HAS NOT PERMITTED. PROPERTY CONSISTS OF PERSONAL EFFECTS (HOME, 27 ACRES LAND, FURNISHINGS, CAR) WORTH ABOUT \$20,000 AND CHURCH PROPERTY WORTH ABOUT \$10,000. REVEREND G.B. SHELBURNE, AUTHORIZED REP OF CHURCH OF CHRIST AND HIGGENBOTHAM IN MALAWI, HAS RECEIVED POWER OF ATTORNEY AND INSTRUCTIONS TO SELL PROPERTY. SHELBURNE PASSED COPIES HIS INSTRUCTIONS TO MINISTER FOR SOUTHERN REGION, CHIWANDA GAMA, BUT LATTER HAS DECLINED SO FAR APPROVE SHELBURNE'S CARRYING OUT INSTRUCTIONS.

2. DEPT WILL RECALL (REF C) THAT MALAWIAN OFFICIAL INVOLVED IS NOTORIOUS FOR PECULATION IN ONE FORM OF ANOTHER AND CAUSED SERIOUS PROBLEM FOR BRITISH IN 1971 "CAMERON DOW" CASE. LATTER ALSO INVOLVED FORFEITURE OF EXPELLED CITIZEN'S ESTATE AND REQUIRED PROTRACTED INTERCESSION WITH PRESIDENT BANDA TO RESOLVE.

3. HIGGENBOTHAM IN LETTER POINTS OUT EXPENSE OF RETAINING CUSTODIAL PERSONNEL IN MALAWI AND CONCERN AT INACTION ESPECIALLY RE DISPOSAL OF PERSONAL PROPERTY. HE SEEKS ADVICE ON NEXT MOVE, WHETHER CONTACTING DEPARTMENT OR MALAWIAN
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AMBASSADOR WASHINGTON. (THOUGH HE DID NOT MENTION IT, WOULD

JUDGE CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIONS ALSO LIKELY IN VIEW OF
EARLIER REP. O.C. FISHER INTEREST IN CASE.)

4. CHURCH OF CHRIST ADVISED EMBASSY TODAY THAT ENTRY PERMITS
FOR TWO CHURCH OFFICIALS ASSIGNED TO MALAWI HAD BEEN TURNED
DOWN BY GOM.

5. AMBASSADOR BURDETT HAS EARLIER TOUCHED ON CASE IN DISCUSSION
WITH EXTAFF PERMSEC NGWIRI (REFS A, B). ASSUME CAREFUL
HANDLING REQUIRED IN ORDER AVOID RERUN OF EARLIER BRITISH
EXPERIENCE. WOULD APPRECIATE DEPT'S ADVICE ON HANDLING.
FARBER

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 08 AUG 1973
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Errors: N/A
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